

# CITY OF MIAMI BEACH

CITY HALL 1700 CONVENTION CENTER DRIVE MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA 33139  
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## COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

**To:** Mayor David Dermer and  
Members of the City Commission

**Date:** February 5, 2003

**From:** Jorge M. Gonzalez  
City Manager

**Subject: REPORT OF THE NEIGHBORHOODS COMMITTEE MEETING JANUARY  
10, 2003**

A meeting of the Neighborhoods Committee was held on January 10, 2003, at 2:00 P.M. in the Mayor's Conference Room. Commissioners in attendance: Matti Herrera Bower and Simon Cruz. City staff in attendance: Jorge M. Gonzalez, City Manager, Robert C. Middaugh, Assistant City Manager, Vivian P. Guzman, Director, Neighborhood Services Department, Max Sklar, Assistant to the Director, Neighborhood Services Department, Jorge Gomez, Director, Planning Department, Mercy Lamazares, Principal Planner, Planning Department, Valerie Schwank-Hasbani, Commission Aide and Dolores Mejia, Commission Aide. Others in attendance: Todd Tragash, Darin Diner, Jeff Bercow, Stan Arkin and Count LFMdeW Rosenthal e Meyerbeer W. Chudzikiewicz h. Chodkiewicz.

### Item 1

**Discussion regarding the City's enforcement of the Noise Ordinance.** Deferred from the January 10, 2003, Neighborhoods Committee meeting.

**Item deferred to the next Neighborhoods Committee meeting.**

### Item 2

**Discussion and presentation of the modifications and refinements to the Concept Plan for the parkland leased to the JCC located at 4221 Pinetree Drive.**

Jorge Gomez, Director, Planning Department, introduced the item and provided a brief history of the property. Approximately 2 years ago, the City Commission approved the modification however, additional refinements have been made to the plan and it is the City Manager's opinion that the modifications are substantial and it merits review by the City Commission. Jeffrey Bercow, attorney for JCC provided additional information on the property and stated that in July 2000, the City Commission approved the 99 year lease and he feels that the new plan is not materially inconsistent with the original plan. Todd Tragash, STA Architectural Group, provided a slide presentation that shows how the new proposed/modified facility will look.

After the presentation, Comm. Cruz stated that he recommends that the JCC plan be sent back to the Planning Board especially in light of the excavation. Comm. Cruz stated that with the amount of added work now required he would like the Planning Board to see the new plan. Comm. Bower expressed the same sentiment and stated that she likes the project but wants to hear from the Planning Board. Additionally, Comm. Bower wants to get a sense of the neighborhood support for the modified project and requested that residents be notified of the Planning Board meeting. Mr. Gomez stated that they can notify the residents of the meeting. Comm. Bower further stated that she would like to see a fee schedule for the residents since it is public land. The representative from the JCC advised that meetings are already scheduled with Tower 41, Orchard Park Neighborhood and Pinetree LaGorce Neighborhood and that they will be looking into creating a fee schedule for residents.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Bower and approved by the Committee to refer the item to the Planning Board.**

**3. Ordinance dealing with Rehearings/Mitigation to provide limits on settlement agreements regarding Special Master fines.** Deferred from the January 10, 2003, Neighborhoods Committee meeting.

**Item deferred to the next Neighborhoods Committee meeting.**

**4. Discussion regarding the creation of a City of Miami Beach Civic Federation.**

Jorge M. Gonzalez, City Manager, introduced the item and discussed the rationale for creating a civic federation. Mr. Gonzalez stated that currently there is no mechanism to solicit input from residents in one forum on citywide issues such as Baylink or 72<sup>nd</sup> Street. The business community has the chamber to provide information and input on citywide business related issues, but nothing is targeted to residents. Comm. Cruz stated that he did not feel we need this type of organization and that they, the City Commission, as the elected officials are the civic association for the City of Miami Beach. Comm. Bower concurred and added that unfortunately, this would not attract any residents that do not currently participate in the process.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Bower and approved by the Committee to not move the item forward and develop a civic federation.**